

March 1999

## **IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF BRAZIL FOR BOVINE EMBRYOS EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES**

The embryos must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of both the consignor and consignee and complete identification of the embryos to be exported.

Additional information shall include:

### **I. CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS**

1. The donor females originate from farms and/or States recognized as free of bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis.
2. The female donor animals were free of clinical signs of transmissible diseases during the period of embryo production and collection.
3. The semen utilized in the production of the embryos is in accordance with the health requirements as specified in the Certified Semen Services (CSS) guidelines of the United States.
4. The collection and processing of embryos for export were done under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian in accordance with the guidelines of the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS) and the Office of International Epizootics (OIE)
5. The embryos were examined microscopically and only embryos with intact zona pellucida are in this shipment.
6. In the case of micro-manipulated embryos: the embryos were washed in accordance with IETS/OIE guidelines, and examined over their entire surface under a microscope at a minimum 50X magnification to ensure that the zona pellucida was intact and free of any adherent material prior to sexing, micromanipulation or freezing.

### **II. COLLECTION/WASHING REQUIREMENTS**

1. The collection of embryos was done be under strict hygienic conditions.
2. The embryos were collected between 6 to 8 days after the first insemination.
3. The embryos were examined microscopically and only embryos with intact zona

pellucida were selected.

4. Only new or sterilized pipettes were used to transfer the embryos between each of ten washes. Each wash constituted a one hundred fold dilution of the previous wash according to procedures of the IETS/OIE.
5. Washing of the embryos. Before the embryos were frozen they were washed (including the use of trypsin) in 10 changes of embryo culture media according to IETS/OIE standards.
6. The contents of the washing medium is specified in detail on the certificate.
7. All procedures related to the production and storage of the embryos were done in such a way to avoid contamination by an infectious disease agent of domestic animals.
8. Sterilized tanks were used for storing the embryos. Separate sealed vials or straws were used for each embryo.
9. Ampules, straws, canes and goblets used for packaging the exported embryos are labelled according to the IETS/OIE standards. The container holding the ampules, straws, canes and goblets was sealed prior to shipment.

### **III. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. The certificate must contain complete identification of the donor cows and bulls, dates of insemination of donor cows, and dates of collection of embryos.
2. The indelible markings on the ampules or straws shall identify the embryos according to the key shown on the health certificate.

### **IV. EMBRYOS COLLECTED FROM DONOR COWS WHICH HAVE SINCE DIED**

Embryos collected, processed and stored according to Sections I through III will qualify for export to Brazil, even when donor cows are no longer living.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

Brazil requires health certificates to be stamped by their Consular office.